

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides a method for the treatment of heart failure through the use of small peptide complexes and recombinant proteins which function to enhance contractility in failing hearts and
5 reduce blood pressure in individuals with hypertension by inhibiting the interaction between phospholamban and sarcoplasmic reticulum Ca^{2+} ATPase (SERCA2a) within cardiomyocytes. In addition, a means is provided for the transport of such therapeutic agents into the cytoplasm
10 and nucleus of cardiomyocytes.